



**FEMA**

October 28, 2019

**SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: 77550-50815909@requests.muckrock.com**

Andrew Free  
MuckRock News  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144

**Re: FEMA FOIA Case Number 2020-FEFO-00069 Acknowledgment**

Dear Mr. Free:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) dated July 18, 2019 and subsequently referred to and received by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on October 24, 2019. You are seeking all communications received by the following email address: "OIGAuditsFollowup@oig.dhs.gov" between March 1, 2019 and the present. OIG referred 14 pages of records to FEMA for review and direct response to you.

The increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office may cause some delay in processing your request. Consistent with 6 Code of Federal Regulations § 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, the Department processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although DHS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. As your request seeks documents that will require a thorough and wide-ranging search, DHS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). If you would like to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial requesters. As a non-commercial requester, you will be charged 10 cents per page for duplication; the first 100 pages are free, as are the first two hours of search time, after which you will pay the per quarter-hour rate (\$4.00 for clerical personnel, \$7.00 for professional personnel, \$10.25 for managerial personnel) of the searcher. We will construe the submission of your request as an agreement to pay up to \$25.00. This office will contact you before accruing any further fees.

The 14 pages of records will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that one of the processors in our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

Your request has been assigned reference number **2020-FEFO-00069**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. To check the status of your FOIA request, you may contact this office at (202) 646-3323 or email at [FEMA-FOIA@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-FOIA@fema.dhs.gov), or you may check the status of your request online at <https://www.dhs.gov/check-status-your-foia-request>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Bridges". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" and last name "Bridges" clearly distinguishable.

Greg Bridges  
Lead Government Information Specialist